

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A thermoelastic actuator assembly including :  
a heating element including a heating layer bonded to a passive bend layer, the passive bend layer being comprised of non-heat conductive material;  
a heat conduction means comprised of heat conductive material positioned within said passive bend layer so as to be spaced from the heating layer to conduct heat generated by the heating element away from said actuator assembly thereby facilitating the return of the actuator to a quiescent state subsequent to operation.
2. (Original) A thermoelastic actuator according to claim 1, wherein the heat conduction means comprises one or more layers of a metallic heat conductive material located within the passive bend layer.
3. (Original) A thermoelastic actuator according to claim 2, wherein the one or more layers of metallic heat conductive material is sufficient to prevent overheating of ink in contact with said actuator.
4. (Original) A thermoelastic actuator according to claim 2, wherein the one or more layers of metallic heat conductive material comprise a laminate of heat conductive material and passive bend layer substrate.
5. (Original) A thermoelastic actuator according to claim 4, wherein the one or more layers of metallic heat conductive material comprise Aluminium.
6. (Original) An ink jet printer including a thermoelastic actuator according to claim 2.
- 7-9. (Cancelled)